

Message Text

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ACTION INT-05

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 EB-08 AID-05 AGRE-00 OES-06

CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 /042 W

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P 150500Z MAR 77

FM AMEMBASSY SANA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 654

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY JIDDA PRIORITY

UNCLAS SANA 1006

DEPT PLEASE PASS TO AID/W, DEPT OF INTERIOR US GEOLOGICAL
SURVEY - CHIEF, AND OFFICE OF INTERNATIONAL GEOLOGY AND
OFFICE OF INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITY.

JIDDA PLEASE PASS TO USGS RAY JACKSON AND FRANKS SIMONS

PT.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EMIN, TPHY, YE

SUBJECT: MINERAL SURVEY OF YAR

BEGIN SUMMARY: PRESENTATION OF USGS PLAN FOR MINERAL SURVEY
IN YEMEN PROPOSED FOR SATURDAY MARCH 19 TO ARAB FUND IN
KUWAIT. END SUMMARY.

1. MAURICE GROLIER AND CHASE TIBBETTS (USGS EMPLOYEES WHO
WORK RESPECTIVELY IN US AND YAR) MADE PRESENTATION OF USGS
PROPOSAL BOTH FOR MINERAL SURVEY AND FOR ITS EXTENSION INTO
OTHER FIELDS (AGRICULTURE FOR INSTANCE) TO CENTRAL PLANNING
OFFICE DIRECTOR MOHAMMAD AL-ARIQI ON 14 MARCH. DCM
RANSOM AND AID PROGRAM OFFICER SHAFER ATTENDED.

2. ARIQI SAID THAT REPORT DONE FOR ARAB FUND BY ADAR,
PRIVATE US FIRM, WAS IN HAND. HE OFFERED ON THE SPOT LET
LIBBETTS AND GROLIER READ IT. ARIQI SAID YARG HAS NOT
YET APPROVED REPORT, AND WOULD WELCOME SUGGESTIONS FROM
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USGS ABOUT SCOPE OF WORK. HE SUGGESTED THAT GROLIER GO
AT ONCE TO KUWAIT "TO REPRESENT US BEFORE THE FUND."
HE SAID TIME WAS IMPORTANT AS FUND HAS ALLOCATED MONEY
FOR PROJECT AND YARG ANXIOUS TO BEGIN. HE THEN DIC-
TATED CABLE TO FUND TO ASK IT TO SEND DELEGATION TO
YEMEN -- OR AGREE TO RECEIVE YEMENI DELEGATION IN
KUWAIT -- TO DISCUSS PROJECT AS PART OF FINAL

PRELIMINARIES OF YARG APPROVAL. HE PROMISED TO INCLUDE MENTION OF USGS VISIT TO KUWAIT.

3. ARIQI MADE CLEAR THAT HE WELCOMED HELP FROM USGS RE SCOPE OF WORK AND OTHER TECHNICAL QUESTIONS BUT DID NOT RPT NOT WANT TO APPEAR TO PREJUDICE AT THIS TIME, IN EYES OF FUND OR ANYONE ELSE, ULTIMATE DECISION ON WHO WOULD BE CONTRACTOR. WE MADE IT CLEAR THAT WAS EXACTLY OUR POSITION TOO; WE COULD NOT BE COMPETITOR TO PRIVATE FIRM.

4. BASED ON ABOVE, TIBBETTS AND GROLIER COULD BE IN KUWAIT ON SATURDAY, 19 MARCH, TO MAKE PRESENTATION OF USGS PROPOSAL WHICH FALLS INTO 4 PARTS: FIRST, DO REGIONAL GEOLOGICAL MAPPING AT 1/100,000 SCALE; SECOND, ASSESS KNOWN OR ANCIENT MINERAL DEPOSITS AND IDENTIFY NEW TARGETS FOR DETAILED EXAMINATION; THIRD, PUBLISH MAPS AND BOOKS OF YEMENI GEOLOGY; FOURTH, TRAIN YEMENIS IN GEOLOGICAL WORK. DETAILED COSTING OF THIS PROGRAM CAN BE PRESENTED IN KUWAIT.

5. PROGRAM IS DESIGNED NOT ONLY TO DO FUNDAMENTAL SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH BUT PRODUCE INFORMATION ABOUT COMMERCIAL DEPOSITS. USGS EFFORTS SO FAR IN YEMEN HAVE PRODUCED ANALYSIS OF STONES FROM MARIB AREA SHOWING SILVER, COBALT AND NICKEL. USGS HAS ALSO COME UP WITH EVIDENCE OF COPPER IN MANAKHA AREA. COMPLETE GEOLOGICAL MAPPING WHICH USGS HAS ALREADY DONE OF YEMEN USING SATELLITY PHOTOGRAPHY AND AID FUNDS UNCLASSIFIED

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PLUS 25 YEARS OF EXPERIENCE WORKING ON GEOLOGY OF SAUDI ARABIA, GIVES USGS EXCELLENT POSITION TO EXTEND ITS WORK INTO YEMEN. NEED IN YEMEN, OF COURSE, FOR MINING JOBS AND EXPORT INCOME CANNOT BE OVEREMPHASIZED IN DEVELOPMENT THIS COUNTRY WHERE GOVERNMENT INTENDS TO PLACE MAJOR EMPHASIS IN MINERAL DEVELOPMENT DURING THE FIVE-YEAR PLAN NOW ABOUT READY FOR IMPLEMENTATION.

6. BELIEVE THAT ROY JACKSON SHOULD ACCOMPANY TIBBETTS AND GROLIER TO KUWAIT. AID/Y WILL FUND TRAVEL AND PER DIEM. GROLIER WILL SPEND TWO DAYS PRIOR IN JIDDA AND GO FROM KUWAIT TO US.

7. CAN AMEMBASSY WAIT SET UP SATURDAY APPOINTMENT WITH ARAB FUND OFFICIALS, HOPEFULLY BOTH DECISION MAKER SNA GEOLOGISTS, AND NOTIFY GROLIER IN JIDDA AND TIBBETTS IN SANA? WOULD ALSO APPRECIATE AMEMBASSY KUWAIT HELP WITH HOTEL RESERVATIONS WITH ARRIVAL ON

FRIDAY, 18 MARCH.

COMMENT. AMEMBASSY SANA HAS PRESSED FOR SOME TIME FOR
USGS ROLE IN MINERAL SURVEY OF YEMEN, WHICH IS CLOSE
TO TOP OF MOST DESIRED DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS HERE.
GROLIER VISIT TO SANA AND KUWAIT IN COMPANY OTHER
USGS OFFICIALS IS PERFECTLY TIMED TO GAIN US A HEARING
IN A FAST-MOVING PROJECT. AS WE ARE ACTING IN THIS
MATTER AT INVITATION OF YARG, AND AS PROJECT AND
TIMING ARE IMPORTANT, WE WILL APPRECIATE ALL SUPPORT
WHICH EMBASSIES JIDDA AND KUWAIT CAN GIVE TO USGS
DELEGATION.
SCOTES

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Executive Order: N/A
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